

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1-12 (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A high performance drum brake assembly for automotive braking system, comprising: a cylinder assembly, a back plate, a strut assembly comprising a strut, a lined leading shoe, a lined trailing shoe, a plurality of shoe return springs, a plurality of shoe hold down springs, a lever assembly, the lever assembly comprising a pivot and a lever, the lever comprising a rear end and a fore end;

characterized in that the lever is pivotally inclined with respect to the lined leading shoe such that the rear end of the lever is sustained by the strut positioned at the upper end of the brake drum;

wherein on actuating the cylinder assembly the lever rotates about its pivot and actuates the strut assembly so that the lined trailing shoe receives inputs from both the cylinder assembly and the strut assembly.

14. (Previously Presented) The high performance drum brake assembly according to claim 13, further comprising a piston; wherein the fore end of the lever is sustained by the piston and a pressurized input is supplied to the lever on actuating the wheel cylinder assembly.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The high performance drum brake assembly, as claimed in claim [[15]] 13, wherein, the strut assembly actuates the lined trailing shoe, which in-turn actuates the lined leading shoe such that a resultant force output acting on the leading shoe is more enhanced than that of the force input and results in enhanced brake performance.